

### REMARKS

Claims 1-7 and 9-32 are pending in this application, of which Claims 1, 14, 22, 26 and 31-38 are independent. Claim 8 has been canceled, and its recitations incorporated into Claims 1, 26 and 32; these actions are taken without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Claims 14, 22 and 31 have been rewritten in independent form. Claims 33-38, which each correspond to one or another of the independent claims mentioned above, have been added to assure Applicants of a full measure of protection of the scope to which they deem themselves entitled.

Applicants note with appreciation the indication that Claims 8-10, 14, 16-18, 22-25 and 31 recited allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten so as not to depend from a rejected claim, and with no change in scope. Since each of the independent claims is now in substance one or another of these claims rewritten as suggested by the Examiner, or a corresponding method or memory-medium claim, the independent claims, and the claims dependent therefrom, are believed to be clearly in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "L.P. Diana", is written over a horizontal line.

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